

# Praying for the Peace of the World

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have called for Sunday 27 February to be a day of prayer for peace.

They have also encouraged the Church of England to join with the Diocese in Europe in prayer for the chaplaincy in Kyiv and the other churches that serve Ukraine on 1 March, and to join with Pope Francis in making Ash Wednesday a day of fasting and prayer for peace.

In planning services which fall on these days, and at other times, all are invited to make use of the following liturgical resources from Common Worship. Provision for both Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic services is given; some will wish to use only the Collect and/or Intercessions, or draw from the lectionary provision; others may wish to use more of these texts in planning a service which meets local needs.

## **For the Peace of the World**

### **Kyrie Confession**

Lord Jesus, you wept over the sins of your city.

On our city/town/nation: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division, jealousy and bitterness.

On us: Christ, have mercy.

### **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner.

Grant us peace: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Collect**

Almighty God,

from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:

kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace

and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom

those who take counsel for the nations of the earth

that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,

till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

## Lectionary

Isaiah 9.1-6; or 57.15-19; Micah 4.1-5

Psalms 40.14-17; 72.1-7; 85.8-13

Philippians 4.6-9; 1 Timothy 2.1-6; James 3.13-18

Matthew 5.43-end; John 14.23-29; or 15.9-17

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers,’ says the Lord,  
‘for they will be called children of God.’

Matthew 5.9

Alleluia.

## Intercession

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the leaders of the nations,  
that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.  
Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of the nation,  
that they may have discipline and discernment,  
courage and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm,  
that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.  
Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the wounded and the captive,  
the grieving and the homeless,  
that in all their trials they may know your love and support.  
Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Most holy God and Father,  
hear our prayers for all who strive for peace  
and all who fight for justice.  
Help us, who today remember the cost of war,  
to work for a better tomorrow;  
and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict,  
bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**